In the Claims

1. (Original) An electronic system for modeling a simulated fleet comprising:

a simulated fleet configuration unit configured to allow a user to add one or more assets to said simulated fleet, each asset having a parameter associated therewith;

a reporting and analysis module configured to generate a report having a composite output that corresponds to said parameter and is characteristic of all of said assets in said simulated fleet; and

a communications interface configured to facilitate electronic remote access of said system by the user.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said simulated fleet configuration unit comprises one of:

a fleet builder module, including a step-by-step asset entry system;
a fleet search module including a first add-to-fleet feature;
a simulated fleet module including an add-asset feature, and
a market search module including a second add-to-fleet feature.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said simulated fleet configuration unit is further configured to store data associated with said assets of said simulated fleet in a first database, said first database further including data associated with assets in an existing fleet, said simulated fleet configuration unit being further configured to allow the user to add assets from said existing fleet to said simulated fleet.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said simulated fleet configuration unit is configured to execute on an application server.

5. (Original) The system of claim 3 further including a second database that includes data associated with assets available for one of a purchase, rental and lease transaction, wherein said simulated fleet configuration unit is further configured to allow the user to add one or more assets from said second database to said simulated fleet.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5 further including a third database that includes data associated with a plurality of pre-configured assets, each preconfigured asset comprising a parameter having a composite value derived from corresponding parameter values associated with a plurality of specific assets of a similar type, said simulated fleet configuration unit being further configured to allow the user to add one or more assets based on type from said third database to said simulated fleet.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein said simulated fleet includes a first asset from said existing fleet, and a second asset selected from one of said second database corresponding to assets for purchase, rental and lease, said third database corresponding to pre-configured assets, and user-defined assets.

8. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said assets comprise industrial equipment.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said assets comprise forklifts.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein said parameter includes at least one of a total maintenance cost, an hourly maintenance cost, a total lease cost, a total operating cost, a total hourly operating cost, and a utilization rating.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said parameter is one of said total maintenance cost, said total lease cost, and said total operating cost, and wherein said reporting and analyzing module is further configured to determine said composite output according to an arithmetic sum function.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein said parameter is one of said hourly maintenance cost, said total hourly cost, and said utilization, wherein said reporting and analyzing module is further configured to determine said composite output according to an arithmetic average function.

13. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said report associated with said simulated fleet is a first report, said reporting and analyzing module being further configured to generate a second report having another composite output that is associated with said existing fleet, to thereby allow the user to compare said first and second reports to evaluate the existing fleet and the simulated fleet.

14. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said reporting and analyzing module is configured to execute on an application server.

15. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said communications interface comprises a Hyper-Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) compliant web server.

16. (Original) An electronic system for modeling a simulated fleet comprising:

a fleet database including data associated with an existing fleet comprising a plurality of specific pieces of industrial equipment;

a market database including data associated with a plurality of specific pieces of industrial equipment that are available for one of purchase, rental and lease;

a simulated fleet configuration unit configured to allow a user to add a first piece of industrial equipment to said simulated fleet from said existing fleet based on data in said fleet database, said simulated fleet configuration unit being further configured to allow said user to add a second piece of industrial equipment based on data from one of said market database, and user-defined industrial equipment, each piece of industrial equipment having a parameter associated therewith;

a reporting and analysis module configured to generate a report having a composite output corresponding to said parameter that is characteristic of all pieces of industrial equipment in said simulated fleet; and

a communications interface configured to facilitate electronic remote access by said user.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 further including a pre-configured asset database that includes data associated with a plurality of modeled pieces of industrial equipment based on type.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said report is a first report, said reporting and analysis module being further configured to generate a second report having another composite output based on industrial equipment in said existing fleet to thereby allow the user to compare said first and second reports to evaluate said existing and simulated fleets.

19. (Original) A method of modeling a simulated fleet comprising the steps of:

(A) providing a fleet database including data associated with an existing fleet comprising a plurality of specific pieces of industrial equipment;

(B) providing a market database including data associated with a plurality of specific pieces of industrial equipment that are available for one of purchase, rental and lease;

(C) providing a pre-configured asset database that includes data associated with a plurality of modeled pieces of industrial equipment based on type;

(D) selecting a first piece of industrial equipment for inclusion in said simulated fleet from the existing fleet based on data in the fleet database, and further selecting a second piece of equipment based on data from one of the market database, the pre-configured asset database and user-defined pieces of industrial equipment, each piece of industrial equipment having a parameter of interest associated therewith;

(E) generating a report having a composite output value as a function of respective parameter values associated with the first and second pieces of equipment; and

(F) electronically transmitting the report to the user at a remote location.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the report is a first report, said method further including the step of:

generating a second report having another composite output value based on respective parameter values associated with pieces of industrial equipment in the existing fleet to

thereby allow the user to compare the first and second reports to evaluate the existing and simulated fleets.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the parameter comprises a financial figure.

22. (New) An electronic system for modeling a simulated fleet comprising a combination of pre-existing fleet assets and simulated assets comprising:

a simulated fleet configuration unit configured to allow a user to add one or more simulated assets to said simulated fleet, each of pre-existent and simulated asset having a parameter associated therewith;

a reporting and analysis module configured to generate a report having a composite output that corresponds to said parameter and is characteristic of all of said assets in said simulated fleet; and

a communications interface configured to facilitate electronic remote access of said system by the user.